



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Cal Ripken is baseball's all-time Iron Man;

WHEREAS, he retired from baseball in October 2001, after 21 seasons with the Baltimore Orioles;

WHEREAS, On July 29, 2007, he was inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame. He received the 3rd highest percentage of votes in history, collecting the highest vote ever by the Baseball Writers Association of America (BWAA);

WHEREAS, in the Fall of 2007, Ripken was named as a Special Public Diplomacy Envoy to the U.S. State Department. In that role he travels the globe and uses baseball as a tool to spread goodwill. In October of 2007, he traveled to China; November of 2008, he visited Nicaragua; November of 2011, when he visited Japan and spent time with the children impacted by the great earthquake and tsunami that devastated much of Japan in March of 2011;

WHEREAS, Ripken has always placed a strong focus on giving back to the community and in 2001 he and his family established the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation in memory of the family's patriarch;

WHEREAS, the Cal Ripken, Sr. Foundation uses baseball and softball themed programs to help build character and teach critical life lessons to at-risk youth and works to create programs that positively impact disadvantaged youth through active community partnerships including ongoing partnerships with the City of Greenville; and

WHEREAS, on April 10, 2012, the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation, along with the Greenville Recreation and Parks Department and the Exceptional Community Baseball League (ECBL), announced their plans to refurbish the Sarah Vaughn Field of Dreams, a baseball and youth sports facility specifically designed to meet the needs of children with physical or developmental disabilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Allen M. Thomas, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 10, 2012, as

CAL RIPKEN DAY

in Greenville and on behalf of our community express gratitude to the Cal Ripken Senior Foundation for its on-going support.

This 4th day of April, 2012.

Allen M. Thomas, Mayor